

SENATE COMMITTEE TESTIMONY REGARDING HB505
27 March 2013

34
3/26/13
HB505

Supporters of HB505, which would reverse Montana's legal "death with dignity" law, are afraid of elder abuse without HB505. Just the opposite is true. HB505 is a recipe for abuse!

When our twenty-year-old son was dying a painful death from cancer, he did not have choice of a peaceful death in our arms, surrounded by our love. His only choice was to die alone by freeing his restrained hands and pulling the breathing tube, when the ICU nurse momentarily left his side. That was abuse!

To pass HB505 is a guarantee of abuse of terminally ill people, for whom life had become intolerable and who courageously wish to end it.

Many supporters of HB505 are the same folks who complain about "big government" and who oppose government interference regarding individual choices. They fail to understand that HB505 is government control of the most profound personal choice, i.e. to end their own suffering.

Dr. Walter Rea Knight
553 State Street
Helena, MT 59601

406-431-6327